

## Message Text

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46 S

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 NASA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SS-15 INR-07

INRE-00 L-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 IO-10 USIE-00

PA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 /062 W

----- 001032

O 111610Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9482

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : ISPA, PFOR, AR

SUBJ: RETURN TO EARTH OF SKYLAB S-II BOOSTER

REF (A) A-6343 (1973); (B) STATE 3594, (C) STATE 4936

1. SUMMARY: BUENOS AIRES PRESS JAN 11 REPORTS SIGHTING AND POSSIBLE

LANDING OF SPACE OBJECTS NEAR CITY OF SAN RAFAEL IN MENDOZA PROVINCE.  
SPECULATION IS THAT OBJECTS WERE PARTS OF SUBJECT BOOSTER. THERE ARE  
NO RPT NO REPORTS OF DAMAGE, BUT SOME REPORTS OF WINDOWS BEING RATTLED.

NATIONAL GENDARMARIE AND/OR LOCAL POLICE MAY ATTEMPT TO LOCATE FALLEN  
OBJECTS. ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFO REFTELS  
(B) AND (C), END SUMMARY.

2. BUENOS AIRES PRESS OF JAN 11 CARRIES REPORT THAT, JUST AFTER  
04:30 LOCAL TIME JAN. 10, A LUMINOUS OBJECT OF APPRECIABLE SIZE  
WAS OBSERVED NEAR SAN RAFAEL, MENDOZA PROVINCE, TRAVELLING IN THE  
SKY FROM THE NORTHWEST TOWARD THE SOUTHEAST AND, SOME 3 TO 4  
MINUTES LATER, A LOUD CLATTER (ESTRUENDO) WAS HEARD.

3. SEVERAL MUNICIPAL WORKERS REPORTEDLY SAW THE OBJECT, AS DID NIGHT-  
SHIFT WORKERS AT THE SAN RAFAEL SLAUGHTERHOUSE. SOME MOTORISTS  
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ON ROUTE 40 REPORTEDLY ALSO SAW THE OBJECT. SOME REPORTS INDICATE

THAT THE OBJECT LANDED IN THE ANDES FOOTHILLS.

4. ALMOST ALL REPORTS DESCRIBE THE OBJECT AS AN INCANDESCENT MASS OF GREAT LUMINOSITY, FOLLOWED BY OTHER SMALLER "POINTS". SOME OBSERVERS DESCRIBED THE PHENOMENON AS QUOTE A SEISMIC WAVE WHICH SHOOK THE FLOOR AND RATTLED DOORS AND WINDOWS IN SAN RAFAEL UNQUOTE. APPARENTLY, NOT MANY PEOPLE NOTICED THIS, HOWEVER.

5. ONE REPORT INDICATES THAT WINDOWS ALSO RATTLED IN VILLA ATUEL AND JAIME PRATS.

6. THE PRESS REPORT, PRINCIPALLY FROM "LA NACION", GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE MALARGUE STATION OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMARIE AND LOCAL UNITS OF THE MENDOZA POLICE WERE TRYING TO DETERMINE THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE LANDING OF THE SPACE OBJECTS. ONCE THEY HAVE A CLEAR INDICATION OF THIS, THEY REPORTEDLY INTEND TO TRY TO REACH THIS SPOT TO ATTEMPT TO LEARN WHAT TRANSPIRED.

7. REPORTS SPECULATE OF COURSE, THAT OBJECTS ARE PIECES OF THE NASA SKYLAB SATURN V, WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO EARTH IMPACT AT ABOUT THIS TIME.

8. EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORIZATION RELEASE INFO REFTEL (B) AS REVISED REFTEL (C) TO HOST GOVERNMENT AND TO PRESS, ALL ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS.  
HILL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REENTRY VEHICLES, SPACE EXPLORATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BUENOS00225  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750012-0096  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750159/aaaabzma.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION OES  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 02 SEP 2003  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RETURN TO EARTH OF SKYLAB S-II BOOSETER  
**TAGS:** TSPA, PFOR, AR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006